# First Congregational
## United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

**An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice**

**June 18, 2023**
**10:00 am**

**“The Way of the Teacher”**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost**
**Juneteenth National Independence Day**
**Father’s Day**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!**

**WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:45 am Sunday morning.**

**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234**

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
## First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

**RINGING THE BELL** — **MARGARET HARNER**

**PRELUDE** — ***Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud** — **JOSHUA CATANIA**

**"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"**
Jaroslav J. Vajda

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** — **MELANIE HARNER**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- It is a blessing to have the **Revs. John and Nancy Rohde** lead our worship service today. More information about Nancy and John is in the announcements.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.
- Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
- Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**GATHERING HYMN** — *Microphone muted — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Call to Prayer"**
**61 SING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**** — *Responsive with microphone muted — **NANCY ROHDE**

Leader: Come together from the broken places,
with wounds and pains,
from struggles and injustices.

**People: We come to gather in spirit and joy.**

Leader: Come from your far-off places to be one together.
Come with your call for justice and your willingness to know God.

**People: We come with power and love to be God's people.**

**HYMN** — *Microphone muted — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"We Are Gathered"**
**2 ES**

## LISTENING FOR GOD

**FIRST READING** **Micah 6:1-8** **NANCY**

A teaching moment: "Deconstruction and Reconstruction" **JOHN**

**SECOND READING** **Mark 6:1-13** **JOHN**

**MORNING MESSAGE** **"The Way of the Teacher"** **JOHN**

**HYMN** *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Bring Many Names"**
**11 NCH**

## CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *Pause Zoom recording **JOHN**

*Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

**PASTORAL PRAYER** *Restart Zoom recording **JOHN**

**DISCIPLES' PRAYER**** *Unison with Microphone muted **JOHN**

**Our Teacher above, may your name call to us.**
**Let us see the gifts you provide to sustain us,**
**that we might share the abundance with others.**
**Walk with us, we pray,**
**in ways that lead us beyond destruction,**
**and renew us, each day, to find your love and joy.**
**For we have been called again and again,**
**to be your people, open to new possibilities.**
**Amen.**

Use this moment of silence to offer your own prayers.

## OFFERING

**INVITATION TO OFFERING** **JOHN**

**Checks can be mailed to:**
**First Congregational United Church of Christ**
**PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

***Thank you for your generosity!***

**OFFERTORY** **"How Can I Say Thanks"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
Andrae Crouch

**DOXOLOGY** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Take My Gifts" v 2, 562 NCH**

*Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,*
*Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,*
*Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,*
*Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief***.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**** *Unison with Microphone muted **NANCY**

**Creator of earth and sky,**
**from all that comes our way, we return a portion to dedicate our lives.**
**Take these gifts and multiply them.**
**Use them for more than our needs and desires,**
**but to plant your garden, grow your beauty,**
**and serve the needs of those near and far.**
**Amen.**

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## DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

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**CLOSING HYMN** *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"[Song]"**
**[Page/Reference]**

**BENEDICTION**** *Unison with microphone muted **JOHN**

Leader: Let us go forth from our gathering with peace.

**People: We go forth with shalom, God's peace and love.**

Leader: Led us go forth renewed with strength for a new day.

**People: We are God's people uniting and building a new world.**

**POSTLUDE** **"For the Beauty of the Earth"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
Follitt Pierpont

**PASSING THE PEACE** **FRIENDS GATHERED**

***Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

**Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am**

**Rev. John Rohde, Bringing the Message**
**Rev. Nancy Rohde, Liturgist**
**Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director**

**Joshua Catania, Accompanist**
**Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern**
**Melanie Harner, Zoom Host/Tech. Coordinator**

**YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
**Worship Address:**
111 S. Wallace Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**Mailing Address:**
PO Box 980413
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
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**ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN**

- **Cover Art:** William White, *Unsplash*
- ****Liturgical Elements:** Created by John Rohde

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Donna Eyster, 734-780-5857.**

**Rev. John & Rev. Nancy Rohde** led this congregation as co-pastors for 9 years as co-pastors. John continued pastoring this faith community 12 more years after Nancy was called to interim ministry. Both Nancy and John were bi-vocational or a "tentmakers" while serving here; John working as house painter and Nancy ministering in hospital chaplaincy. Since retirement in 2001, they spent 10 years in the Boyne City area where they built a home, doing much of the work themselves, and then moved to Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers 12 years ago. They are now active at Fort Myers UCC, a congregation with 15 retired clergy.

**Thank you, both!** It is such a joy to have you share your faith, creativity, and commitment to the teachings of the radical Jesus, which we too embrace. Thank you for your continued love and support for this faith community.

**Worship Next Week: Bringing the Message, *Daring Discipleship,* Rev. Jeanette Sherrill.**
**Zoom Host/Greeter, Patty Sherwood; Worship Leader, Ivan Harner.**

**Next Steps in Moving Our Faith Community Forward to What God Seeks of Us - All of Us!**

We need you at a **Zoom Congregational Meeting on Sunday Morning June 25 at 9:15a.m.** We will gather for the purpose of creating a list of possible paths for our future. We will not discuss or evaluate each of these possibilities. No idea is too off the wall to add to the list! The list will then be sent to each of you via email to indicate if you think each option is of low, medium, or high. This is the next step in the discernment work we did with Pastor Liz, which resulted in our **Mission-Vision-Values** statements. Rev. Jeanette Sherrill will lead this endeavor. Jeanette helped other congregations transition to new paths while she was on staff in the New York UCC Conference. God really does provide! Please come and offer your thoughts. Thank you, Jeanette!

**Church Council** will meet on **Wednesday, June 28th, 7:00 PM,** on church zoom. **All are welcome and encouraged to attend!**

**Pride Month continues:** One of our hymns today was ***Bring Many Names***, lyrics by Brian Wren. The text is based on Genesis 1:27 and Wren explains his interpretation: *God gives us glimpses of the divine nature in each other, and specifically in our genderedness.* Although the text offers some *glimpses* of God throughout, it concludes with the recognition that God is *never fully know.* (excerpt from **New Century Hymnal Companion)**

**Juneteenth National Independence Day:** (also called **Freedom Day** or **Emancipation Day)**

On June 19, 1865, about two months after the Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Va., Gordon Granger, a Union general, arrived in Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved African Americans of their freedom and that the Civil War had ended. General Granger's announcement put into effect the Emancipation Proclamation, which had been issued nearly two and a half years earlier, on Jan. 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln.

Juneteenth, an annual commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States after the Civil War, has been celebrated by African Americans since the late 1800s.

In 2021 President Biden signed legislation making Juneteenth, which falls on June 19, a federal holiday. Interest in the day was renewed during the summer of 2020 and the nationwide protests following the police killings of Black Americans including George Floyd and Breonna Taylor.

*Excerpts **New York Times** article published in 2020 and updated in 2023*

There has been a noticeable increase in Juneteenth celebrations across the United States over the past few years. In May of this year, Michigan Senate voted nearly unanimously to pass Senate Bill 50, legislation which establishes "Juneteenth," or June 19, as an official state-recognized holiday. The bill will bring Juneteenth on par with other state and federal holidays as a bank and judicial holiday in Michigan. Senate Bill 50 confirmed Gov. Whitmer proclamation issued in 2022 recognizing Juneteenth as a holiday in Michigan.

***In Ypsilanti…….*** In September 2019, the Ypsilanti City Council passed an ordinance recognizing Juneteenth as an official holiday. City Mayor Lois Richardson pointed out that Ypsilanti has a record of fighting bigotry, slavery and racism. Even prior to the Civil War, the city was part of the Underground Railroad helping slaves find a way to freedom. The city sent soldiers, Black and white, to fight and die for the Union in the Civil War to free the slaves. The city also has a history of passing ordinances to prohibit discrimination of all kinds, she said.

**TODAY in South Huron Parking Lot - Juneteenth Sunday Service** begins at 1:00 PM, followed by **Gospel and Giggles Comedy Hour** from 2:00-4:00. **Gospel Greats** from throughout Michigan take the stage with their high praise! It will be an amazing concert. Activities will take place in the So. Huron parking lot, where activities have been happening both Friday and Saturday.

## OUR MINISTRIES

**HOLY GROUNDS AND TEA FOR THE SOUL -** During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night chaplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413.

**IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR) -** Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

*To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.*

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

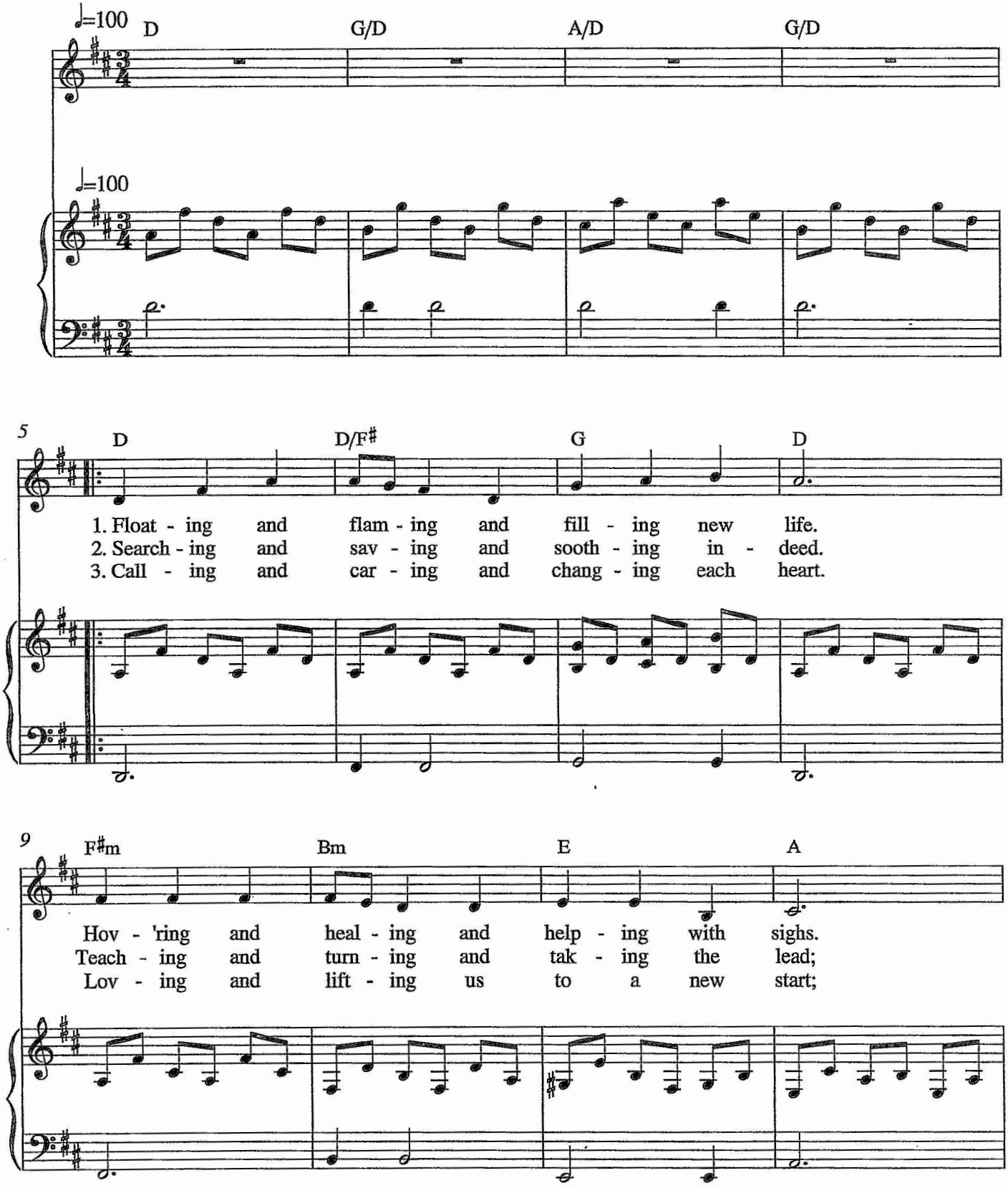
**WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION** – Ypsilanti First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

*WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.*

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

1/2

# Call to Prayer

♩=100
D
G/D
A/D
G/D
♩=100
5
D
D/F♯
G
D
1. Float - ing and flam - ing and fill - ing new life.
2. Search - ing and sav - ing and sooth - ing in - deed.
3. Call - ing and car - ing and chang - ing each heart.
9
F♯m
Bm
E
A
Hov - 'ring and heal - ing and help - ing with sighs.
Teach - ing and turn - ing and tak - ing the lead;
Lov - ing and lift - ing us to a new start;

Words and Music: Phil Mark, Copyright ©1997, 2005. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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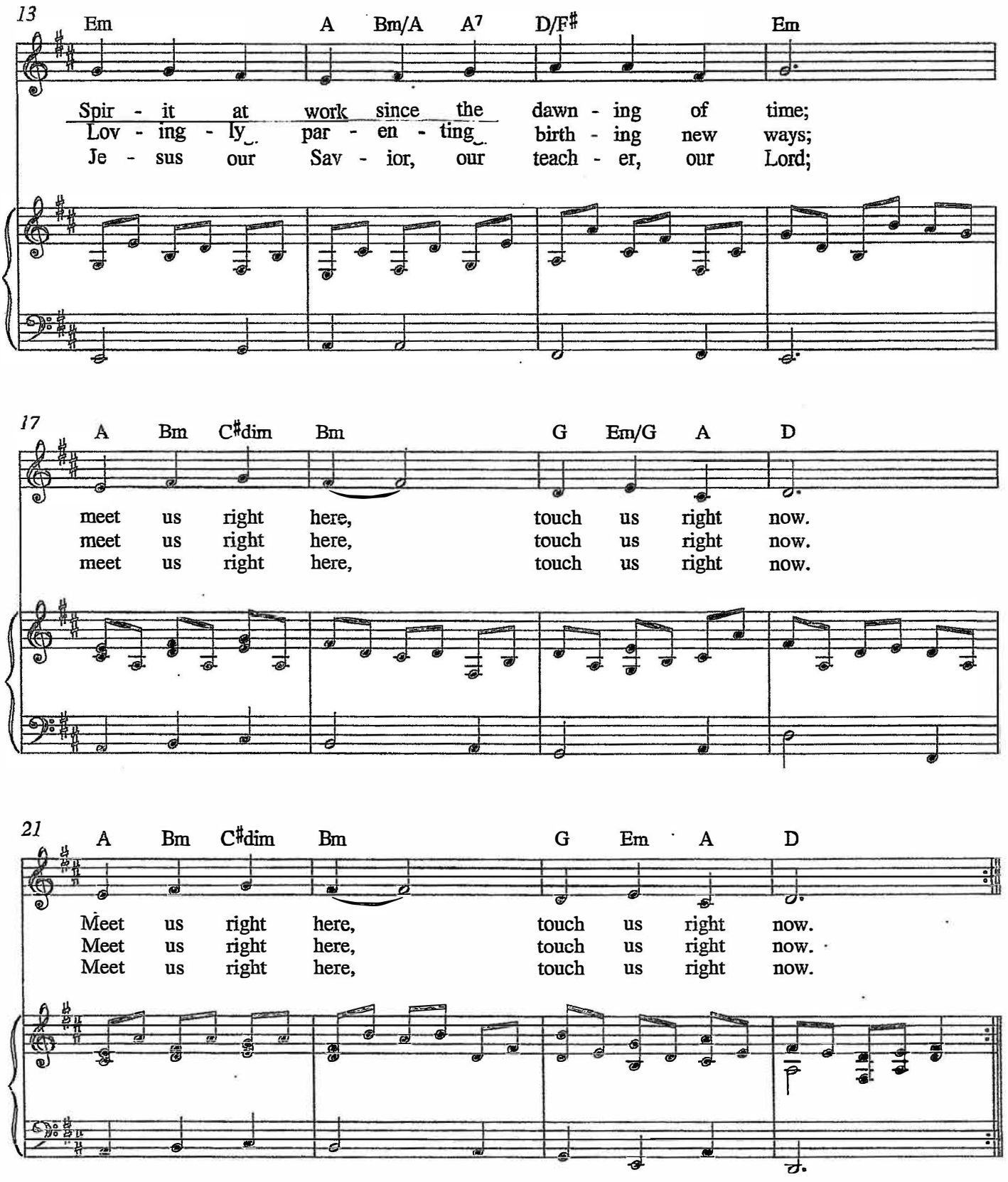
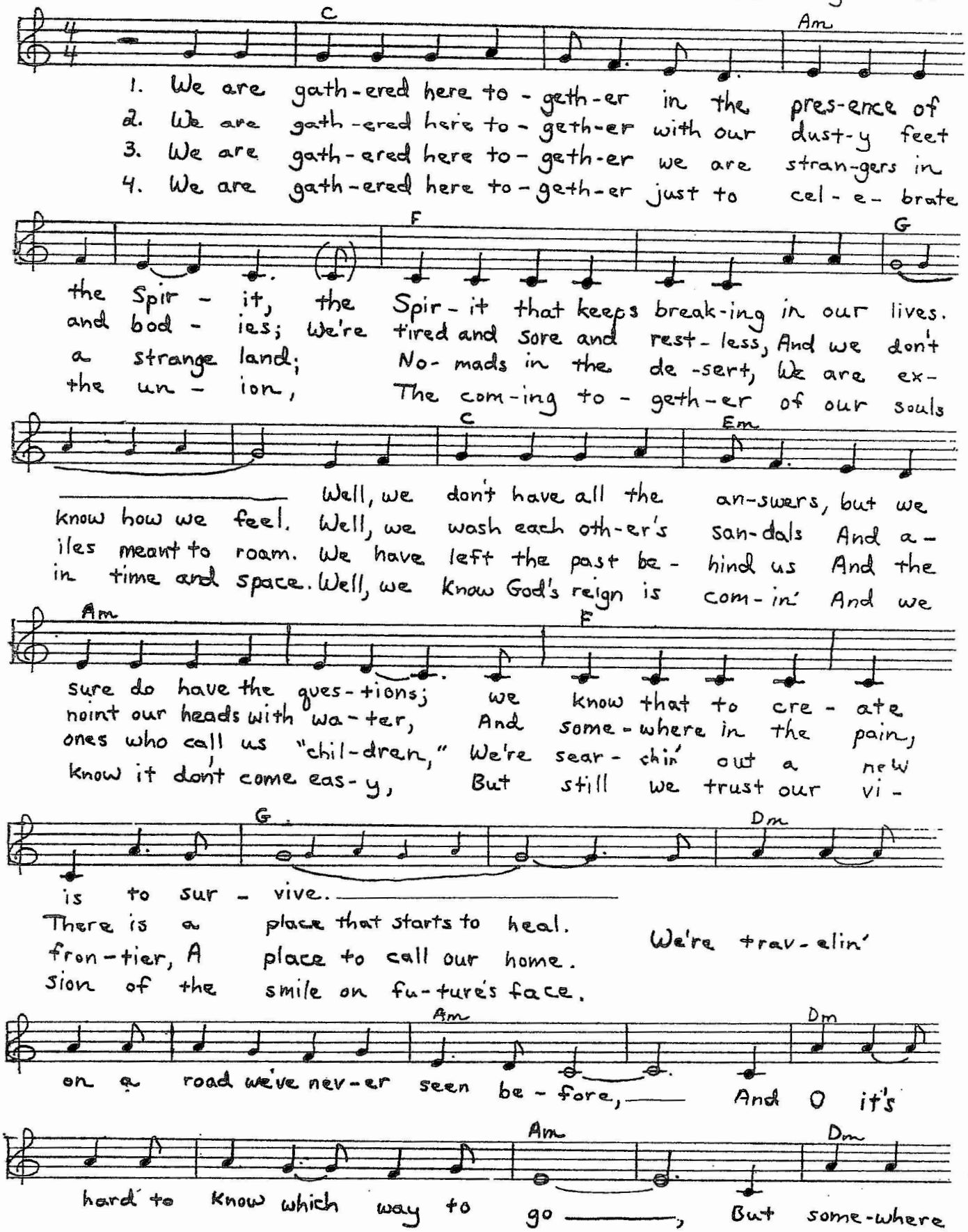
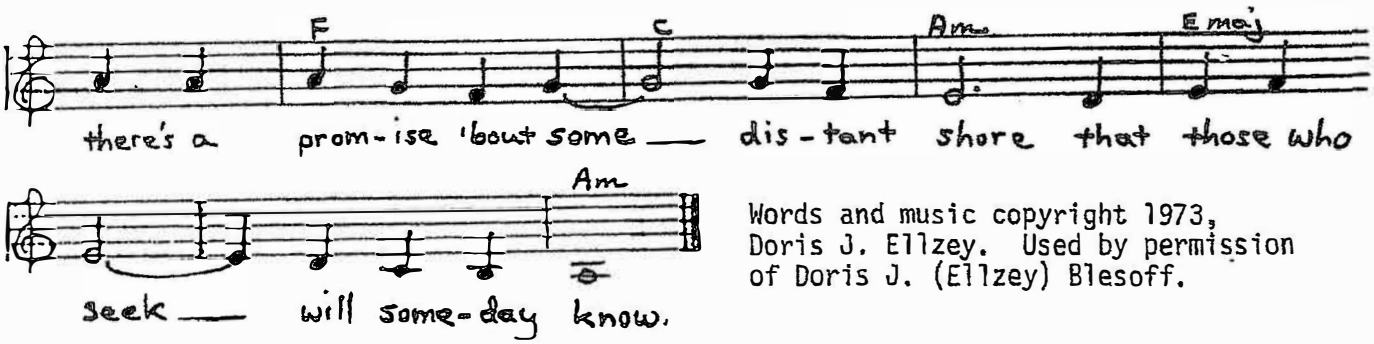

13
Em A Bm/A A7 D/F♯ Em
Spir - it at work since the dawn - ing of time;
Lov - ing - ly par - en - ting birth - ing new ways;
Je - sus our Sav - ior, our teach - er, our Lord;
17
A Bm C♯dim Bm G Em/G A D
meet us right here, touch us right now.
meet us right here, touch us right now.
meet us right here, touch us right now.
21
A Bm C♯dim Bm G Em A D
Meet us right here, touch us right now.
Meet us right here, touch us right now.
Meet us right here, touch us right now.

# We Are Gathered

Words and music by
Doris Ellzey Blesoff


C
Am
1. We are gath-ered here to-geth-er in the pres-ence of
2. We are gath-ered here to-geth-er with our dust-y feet
3. We are gath-ered here to-geth-er we are stran-gers in
4. We are gath-ered here to-geth-er just to cel-e-brate
F
G
the Spir-it, the Spir-it that keeps break-ing in our lives.
and bod-ies; We're tired and sore and rest-less, And we don't
a strange land; No-mads in the de-sert, We are ex-
the un-ion, The com-ing to-geth-er of our souls
C
Em
Well, we don't have all the an-swers, but we
know how we feel. Well, we wash each oth-er's san-dals And a-
iles meant to roam. We have left the past be-hind us And the
in time and space. Well, we know God's reign is com-in' And we
Am
F
sure do have the ques-tions; we know that to cre-ate
noint our heads with wa-ter, And some-where in the pain,
ones who call us "chil-dren," We're sear-chin' out a new
know it don't come eas-y, But still we trust our vi-
G
Dm
is to sur-vive.
There is a place that starts to heal.
fron-tier, A place to call our home.
sion of the smile on fu-ture's face.
We're trav-elin'
Am
Dm
on a road we've nev-er seen be-fore, And O it's
Am
Dm
hard to know which way to go, But some-where







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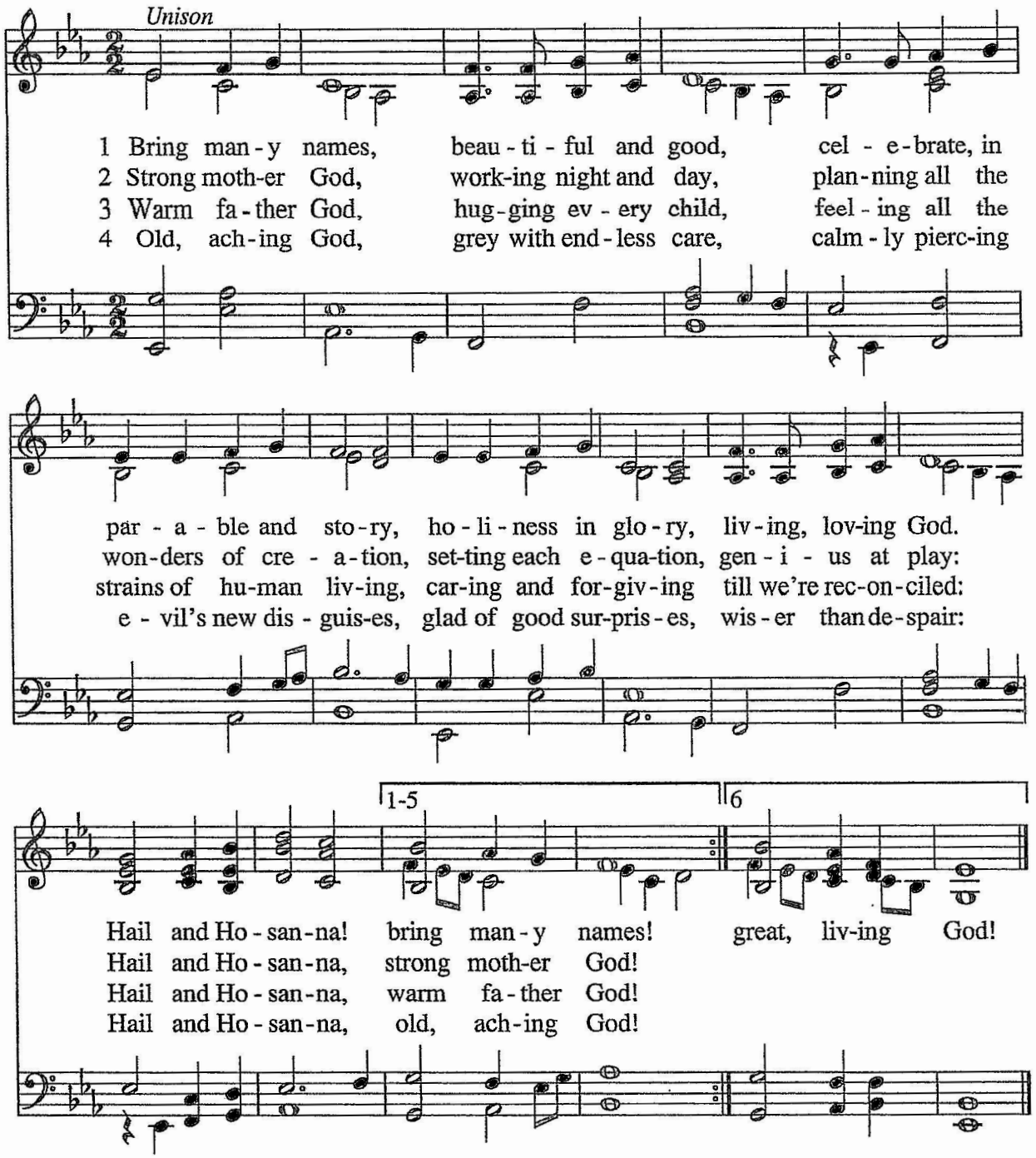
# Bring Many Names

11

*Brian Wren, 1989*

*Gen. 1:27*

Unison
1 Bring man-y names, beau-ti-ful and good, cel-e-brate, in
2 Strong moth-er God, work-ing night and day, plan-ning all the
3 Warm fa-ther God, hug-ging ev-ery child, feel-ing all the
4 Old, ach-ing God, grey with end-less care, calm-ly pierc-ing
par-a-ble and sto-ry, ho-li-ness in glo-ry, liv-ing, lov-ing God.
won-ders of cre-a-tion, set-ting each e-qua-tion, gen-i-us at play:
strains of hu-man liv-ing, car-ing and for-giv-ing till we're rec-on-ciled:
e-vil's new dis-guis-es, glad of good sur-pris-es, wis-er than de-spair:
1-5
6
Hail and Ho-san-na! bring man-y names! great, liv-ing God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, strong moth-er God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, warm fa-ther God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, old, ach-ing God!

5 Young, grow-ing God, ea-ger,
on the move,
say-ing no to false-hood and
un-kind-ness,
cry-ing out for jus-tice,
giv-ing all you have:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
young, grow-ing God!

6 Great, liv-ing God, nev-er ful-ly known,
joy-ful dark-ness far be-yond our see-ing,
clos-er yet than breath-ing,
ev-er-last-ing home:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
great, liv-ing God!

*The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune* Westchase *was composed especially for this text.*

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
*Carlton Young, 1989*

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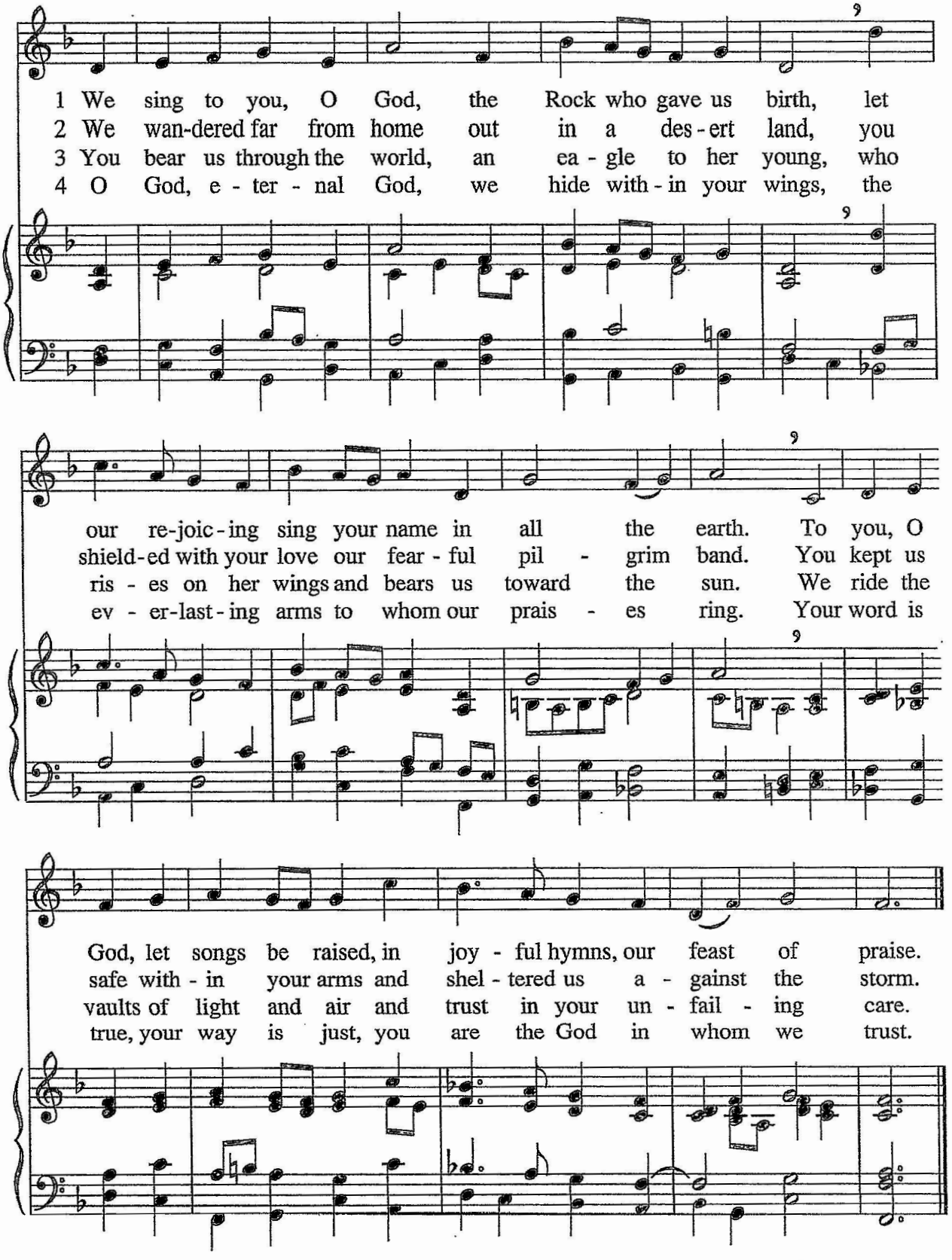
# We Sing to You, O God

9

*Gracia Grindal, 1985, 1989*

1 We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth, let
2 We wan-dered far from home out in a des-ert land, you
3 You bear us through the world, an ea-gle to her young, who
4 O God, e-ter-nal God, we hide with-in your wings, the
our re-joic-ing sing your name in all the earth. To you, O
shield-ed with your love our fear-ful pil-grim band. You kept us
ris-es on her wings and bears us toward the sun. We ride the
ev-er-last-ing arms to whom our prais-es ring. Your word is
God, let songs be raised, in joy-ful hymns, our feast of praise.
safe with-in your arms and shel-tered us a-gainst the storm.
vaults of light and air and trust in your un-fail-ing care.
true, your way is just, you are the God in whom we trust.

*Poet, author, and teacher of poetry and writing, Gracia Grindal has held editorial and consultant positions for several hymnic publications. She has served as professor of pastoral theology and ministry communication at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, Minneapolis.*

Tune: CAMANO 6.6.6.6.4.4.4.4.
*Richard Proulx, 1979*
*Alternate tune: DARWALL'S 148TH*

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